



NEWS RELEASE

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Corps to hold public information meeting on April 8 in New Haven on proposed dredging in Bridgeport Harbor

CONCORD, Mass. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District will hold a public information meeting on April 8 in New Haven, Conn., on the proposed maintenance dredging of the Federal navigation channel in Bridgeport Harbor in Bridgeport.

Bridgeport Harbor is located on the north shore of Long Island Sound between the cities of New Haven and Stamford, Conn. Goods transported through Bridgeport Harbor include coal, sand, gravel, stone, and petroleum projects.

The public information meeting will be held on Thursday, April 8, 2010 in the Nathan Hall School auditorium, at 480 Townsend Avenue in New Haven. The doors will open at 5 p.m. and the meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. A presentation will be made and then there will be time for questions and answers.

The proposed project would re-establish the authorized 35-foot deep Mean Lower, Low Water (MLLW) Main Ship navigation channel from Long Island Sound to the inner harbor, the 18-foot deep MLLW navigation channel in the Pequonnock River, and the 18-foot deep MLLW navigation channel in Yellow Mill Creek, a tributary. In addition, the 35-foot deep MLLW and 25-foot deep MLLW east anchorages, the 18-foot deep MLLW west anchorage, and the 18-foot deep MLLW barge anchorage, as well as the 35-foot deep MLLW turning basin would also be restored to their authorized depths.

Approximately 1.78 million cubic yards of material would be dredged from the Federal navigation project (FNP) at Bridgeport Harbor. About 670,000 cubic yards of material has been determined to be suitable for open water placement. Of the remaining material, 913,000 cubic yards would be placed into a Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) cell that would be created within Bridgeport Harbor, and 197,000 cubic yards of material would be placed into an existing borrow pit located in Morris Cove in New Haven Harbor. Both CAD cells would be capped with suitable material from the outer portions of the FNP.

Most of the suitable material dredged from the FNP and the new CAD cell, about 1.25 million cubic yards, would be disposed at the Central Long Island Disposal Site (CLIS). The remaining suitable material, about 223,000 cubic yards, would be used to cap the Bridgeport Harbor CAD cell and the Morris Cove borrow pit. Approximately 38,000 cubic yards of material would be dredged to create an access channel to the Morris Cove borrow pit. This material would also be placed in the Morris Cove borrow pit. The total amount of material to be dredged from the proposed project is approximately 3.0 million cubic yards.

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Public meeting on proposed Bridgeport Harbor dredging/2-2-2-2

The public notice for this proposed work, with more detailed information, is available for review on the Corps website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>. Select “navigation” and then “public notices” or go directly to the link at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/navigation/pubnot2.asp>. The Draft Environmental Assessment, the Draft Bridgeport Dredge Material Management Plan (DMMP), and the public notice are available for review on the projects page under Bridgeport Dredge Material Management Plan at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/projects.asp>.

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